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MEDICAL PROGRESS.

Alleghany County Medical Society.—At a regular meeting of this Society, held at Union Hall, January 6, 1852, the following gentlemen were elected officers for the present year:—

President.—Dr. A. M. Pollock.

Vice-Presidents.—Drs. Robert Snyder, and Geo. D. Bruce.

Corresponding Secretary.—Dr. William McK. Morgan.

Recording Secretaries.—Drs. Chas. F. Williams and J. W. Gustine.

Treasurer.—Dr. J. Brooks.

Censors.—Drs. E. G. Edrington, J. Brooks, and R. B. Mowry.

Board of Examiners.—Drs. J. Brooks, R. B. Mowry, and Robert Snyder.

The following gentlemen were, at the same time, elected delegates to the National and State Medical Societies:—

American Medical Association.—Drs. J. P. Gazzam, W. Draine, E. G. Edrington, Daniel McNeal, G. D. Bruce.

State Medical Society.—Drs. A. M. Pol-

lock, J. H. Willson, Samuel Dilworth, H. R. Bell, G. D. Bruce, J. McCracken, R. Snyder, T. J. Gallaher, J. W. Gustine.

The following gentlemen are members of the Society: Drs. W. Addison, C. L. Armstrong, H. R. Bell, H. H. Brackenridge, J. Carothers, J. Dickson, S. Dilworth, N. J. Dorsey, W. Draine, T. Dickson, E. G. Edrington, P. Fahnestock, G. Flower, J. P. Gazzam, W. M. Gray, T. J. Gallaher, J. W. Gustine, J. A. Glenn, W. M. Herron, J. B. Herron, H. Halleck, W. McK. Morgan, R. B. Mowry, J. Brooks, G. D. Bruce, J. H. O'Brien, T. McKennan, Dan'l. McNeal, A. G. McCandless, Geo. McCook, N. McDonald, Jno. McCracken, T. McGrath, Jno. Pollock, A. M. Pollock, B. R. Palmer, S. A. Reed, Robt. Snyder, T. W. Shaw, John Wilson, J. H. Willson, Chas. F. Williams, Jas. D. Shields, J. J. Myers, J. Martin, and J. Mecaskey.

Physicians Society, for Medical Observations, of Greene and adjoining Counties, Ga.—At a meeting of the physicians of Greene and the adjoining counties (Ga.), convened

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In no case will this work be sent unless the money is paid in advance.

This should pay postage as a newspaper. Each number of the "Medical News and Library" weighs between one and two ounces. Subscribers will therefore, under the new postage law, pay in advance for each quarter as follows:—

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do. do. between 50 and 300 . . .	2½ " "
do. do. do. 300 and 1000 . . .	3¼ " "
do. do. do. 1000 and 2000 . . .	5 " "

at Greensboro, on the 6th of October last, it was determined to organize a medical society *exclusively* for medical improvement, and as auxiliary to the Georgia State Medical Society; and at a subsequent meeting, on the 20th of the same month, a constitution and by-laws were adopted, and the society organized, by the election of the following officers:—

President.—James F. Foster, M. D.

Vice-President.—W. L. Alfriend, M. D.

2d Vice President.—F. W. Chaney, M. D.

Secretary.—D. C. O'Keefe, M. D.

Treasurer.—J. E. Walker, M. D.

The Society adopts, as a part of its regulations, the code of ethics of the American Medical Association.

SKETCHES AND ILLUSTRATIONS OF MEDICAL QUACKERY.

Mendacity of Quacks.—[The following extract of a letter to the editor of this Journal, is from a responsible and entirely reliable source.]

"DEAR SIR: The article in the late number of the 'News' on 'Mendacity of Quacks,' as illustrated by the proprietor of 'Ayer's Cherry Pectoral,' reminds me to send you notice of similar forgeries by that notorious person, in this vicinity. The name of Professor Silliman has been published far and wide as a voucher for the excellent properties of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, entirely without his knowledge. As soon as it was brought to his notice he asked Ayer, by letter, for his authority for such use of his name; at the same time declaring the whole a sheer fabrication. Telling him that, unless the false and offensive statement was withdrawn from publication in newspapers and elsewhere, he would publish him as a *forger*, and take such legal measures as the case required. The certificate was withdrawn from the principal papers in the eastern cities, but continued in the country prints; and also in southern and western cities. Professor S. has published a card, denouncing *such use* of his name as a *forger*; but this will be seen by only a few comparatively. The mass of the *profession* will not see it, as it was published in the *Journal of Science*. Ayer's reply to the above, was a mixture of the most fulsome laudation and unblushing impudence and falsehood; winding up by saying, "if you

could only see the many astonishing cures of persons who have been induced to try the Pectoral by the influence of your *widely honoured name*, you certainly would not object to our use of it." Did you ever know such bare-faced effrontery?"

Professor Henderson and Homœopathy.—[Professor SIMPSON narrated, at a late meeting of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh, the following amusing account of the conversion of Dr. Henderson to Homœopathy.]

"Some eight or ten years ago, an old schoolmate of Dr. Simpson, having begun business as a homœopathic druggist in Liverpool, kindly sent Dr. S. a present of a small box of homœopathic medicines; and a very beautiful painted box it was. During the time it was in Dr. S.'s possession, he put it only to one use, viz., he gave it as an occasional plaything to his eldest son, who was then a child. The boy, revelling in his permitted amount of mischief, used in his sport to uncork the small bottles, empty their globules into a heap, and then refill the bottles from the general mass. Of course, this had speedily the effect of altering and disarranging the contents of the entire lilliputian drug shop; the globules pertaining to the different bottles were more or less thoroughly mixed together; and sometimes when the child was tired of his occupation, others at last refilled the bottles from the general heap. A professional brother happening to call at Dr. S.'s house one day when Dr. S. was absent from home, saw the box, and put it in his pocket. Many weeks afterwards, the new proprietor of the box met Dr. S., and told him that he had been trying to practise homœopathically, at which Dr. S. expressed his regret; and he added that he had seen some wonderful effects and cures from using the drugs contained in Dr. S.'s own former homœopathic box! Wrongly perhaps, as Dr. S. now thinks, he did not at the time, tell this physician that the globules of the bottles which he had been using were elaborately commixed; but the whole struck him as so good a joke at the moment, that he thought he would reserve it to bring it out upon his friend on some future and more ripe occasion, for the purpose of laughing him out of his homœopathic delusion. But, unfortunately, matters hastened rapidly on, the physician became more and more a homœopathist, and then it became too serious

a matter to joke about, when he actually published a list of supposed homœopathic cures. The whole thing assumed so grave an aspect, that he never mentioned it until the physician, who had appropriated the box, had become far too hardened in his homœopathic practices to allow of any hope of his reconversion.

"Mr. Syme begged to ask who the practitioner was that had been converted to homœopathy, by watching the effects of the globules contained in Dr. Simpson's mixed homœopathic drug-box; and he hoped, for the sake of the profession in Edinburgh, Dr. S. would have no objections to mentioning the practitioner's name.

"Dr. Simpson said that the practitioner alluded to was Professor Henderson."

Clerical Endorsement of Quackery.—Eclectic Medical College Commencement.—At the first annual Commencement of this College, held in Philadelphia on the 16th of February, the ceremonies were opened by an address to the Throne of Grace [!] by the Rev. J. M. DOUGLASS, and closed by a *Benediction*! by the same individual.

MEDICAL NEWS.

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

American Medical Association.—The fifth annual meeting of the American Medical Association will be held at Richmond, Va., on Tuesday, May 4th, 1852.

All secretaries of societies, and of other bodies entitled to representation in this Association, are requested to forward to the undersigned correct lists of their respective delegations as soon as they may be appointed.

The following is an extract from Art. II. of the constitution:—

"Each local society shall have the privilege of sending to the Association one delegate for every ten of its regular resident members, and one for every additional fraction of more than half of this number. The faculty of every regularly constituted medical college or chartered school of medicine shall have the privilege of sending two delegates. The professional staff of every chartered or municipal hospital containing a hundred inmates or more, shall have the privilege of sending two delegates; and every other permanently organized medical

institution of good standing shall have the privilege of sending one delegate."

The medical press of the United States is respectfully requested to copy.

P. CLAIBORNE GOOCH, M. D.

*One of the Secretaries,
Bank street, Richmond, Va.*

Report of a Joint Committee of the Philadelphia County Medical Society and of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, relative to Physicians' Prescriptions.—At the annual meeting of the Philadelphia County Medical Society, held Jan. 20th, 1852, the following report of a joint committee of the Philadelphia County Medical Society and Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, was unanimously adopted, with this proviso, viz. .

"That nothing therein contained shall be construed into any sanction or countenance, direct or indirect, on the part of this Society, of the manufacture, sale, or use by any one, or under any pretext, of quack or secret medicines."

The joint Committees of the Philadelphia County Medical Society, and of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, appointed for the purpose of considering the means best adapted to prevent the occurrence of mistakes in the compounding of the prescriptions of physicians by apothecaries, beg leave to report that they have given to the subject all the attention that its importance demands, and present the following hints as the results of their joint deliberations. They have taken the liberty of adding, also, a few general hints on the relations that should exist between physicians and pharmacutists.

A. In Respect to Physicians.

1. Physicians should write their prescriptions carefully and legibly, making use of good paper, and, whenever possible, of pen and ink. When obliged to write with a pencil, they should take the precaution to fold the prescription twice, so as to prevent its being defaced.

2. The nomenclature of the United States Pharmacopœia is becoming annually more in favour with pharmacutists; a statement attested by the fact that 1500 copies of the book of Latin Labels for shop furniture, published by the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, have been disposed of within three years. Physicians are also becoming more alive to the merits of our national Codex, and they are respectfully urged to

familiarize themselves with its nomenclature, and to adhere to it strictly in their prescriptions.

3. The numerous treatises on *Materia Medica*, Pharmacy, and the Practice of Medicine, of English origin, that are reprinted in this country, notwithstanding, they are generally interlarded with the formulae of our own Pharmacopœia, tend, nevertheless, very much to confuse the physician and apothecary, in the use and exact meaning of terms in prescriptions. To obviate the difficulties thus occasioned, the physician should, when he prescribes a medicine, which is not official, nor in common use, state on his prescription, either in a note at the bottom, or within parenthesis, following the article, the authority or work from whence it is derived, as "Griffith's Formulary" — "Ellis' Formulary" — "Braithwait's Retrospect," etc.

4. Physicians would lessen the risk of errors in their prescriptions, and increase the chances of their detection should they be made, by observing the following hints:

1st. Write the name of the patient at the top of the prescription, unless a good reason prevents this being done; in which case, it should be expressed as for Mr. G—, Mrs. R—, or Mrs. S.'s child, or for Master T—, so as to convey to the apothecary some idea of the age of the patient.

2d. The date and name of the physician, or his initials, should always be appended, and, whenever practical, the dose and mode of administering the medicine directed.

3d. When an unusually large dose of an active medicine is prescribed, as opium, morphia, elaterium, strychnia, etc., let such names be put in *italics*, and the quantity or quantities repeated in writing enclosed within a parenthesis; thus:—*R. Morphia Sulphatis grs. vj.* (six grains.) Div. in chart. vj.

4th. When an active substance is to be used externally, it should be so stated on the prescription: thus, "For external application"—"To be applied to the part as directed," etc.

5th. The quantities of each article should be placed in a line with the name, and not below it, and in using the Roman numerals, the *i's* should be dotted correctly.

6th. The occasional practice of writing the directions intended for the patient in *Latin*, and especially in abbreviated Latin, is uncalled for, and attended with some risk;

it is far safer to write them in English, and without abbreviation or the use of figures, unless these are well and distinctly formed.

B. In Respect to the Apothecary.

1st. The apothecary should hesitate to dispense a prescription, the handwriting of which is so imperfect as to render the writer's meaning doubtful—especially if it involves agents of a poisonous or irritating character—unless he is able, from collateral circumstances, to satisfy himself of the intent of the prescriber. In such a case he should delay the delivery of the medicine to the patient until he can see the physician, and in doing so he should avoid committing the latter by agreeing to send the medicine when it is ready.

2d. The apothecary is justified in the same means of delay, if he, after deliberate consideration, believes that the physician has inadvertently made a mistake in the quantity or dose of the article or articles prescribed; always keeping in view the physician's reputation as well as his own. Every respectful application, in such cases, to a physician, should be met in good faith and with kind feeling, even though no error should prove to exist.

3d. In his demeanour and language, the apothecary should cautiously avoid compromising the physician, unless it be unavoidable, in which case honesty is the best policy, and the patient or his messenger should be told that it will be necessary to have an interview with the physician previously to compounding his prescription.

4th. The apothecary is not justifiable in making inquiries relative to the patient or his disease, or remarks relative to the character or properties of the medicines prescribed, that are uncalled for, or likely to convey a wrong impression, through an ignorant messenger, to the patient, excepting it be done in a case where he has doubts in regard to the prescription, and wishes to satisfy himself, and here he should act with great discretion.

5th. When an apothecary is asked his opinion of a physician's prescription in a manner that indicates want of faith in the prescriber, he should waive the question, unless by a direct answer he should be able to restore that confidence. When asked the nature of the ingredients, he should be guided in his answer by circumstances, avoiding to give the desired information, when he be-

lieves it would be contrary to the wish of the physician, or attended with injurious consequences. In other cases he should use his own judgment.

6th. Physicians being often unacquainted with practical pharmacy, pay little attention to the order in which the several articles entering into a prescription are arranged, with the view to facilitate the operations of dispensing. It hence becomes the first duty of the apothecary carefully to read the prescription and fix the proper order in his mind. He should, at the same time, acquire the habit of considering the quantities ordered in relation to the usual doses, and, also, the general bearing of the prescription; and a constant resort to this practice, based on due knowledge, must almost inevitably detect mistakes, if any have been made.

7th. Apothecaries should accustom their assistants to study prescriptions in this light, and to acquire such a knowledge of the doses and therapeutical uses of medicines as shall serve to guide them in avoiding errors.

8th. The apothecary, when engaged in dispensing a prescription, should, as far as possible, avoid mental pre-occupation, and give his attention fully to his task. He should acquire the habit of *always* examining the label of the bottle before using its contents, and he should satisfy himself that he has read the prescribed quantity correctly, by referring to the prescription anew before weighing out each article. It is also a useful precaution to have bottles containing mineral or vegetable poisons, distinguished by some prominent mark.

9th. As the conscientious discharge of his duty should be the aim of every apothecary, seeing that on his correct action depends, in no slight degree, the usefulness of the physician, no pains should be spared to secure the efficiency of the medicines dispensed, whether they be drugs or preparations. The latter should always be prepared of full strength, and according to the formulæ recognized by the United States Pharmacopœia, unless when otherwise specially ordered.

10th. The apothecary should always label, and number correctly, all medicine dispensed by him on the prescription of a physician; he should, also, invariably, transcribe on the label, in a plain legible hand-writing, the name of the patient, the date of the prescription, the directions intended for the pa-

tient, and the name or the initials of the prescriber.

11th. The original prescription should always be retained by the apothecary, whose warrantee it is, in case of error on the part of the prescriber. When a copy is requested, if, as in many instances, no objection can be urged, it should be a *fac simile* in language and symbols, and not a translation.

12th. In no instance is an apothecary justifiable in leaving his business in charge of boys, or incompetent assistants—or in allowing such to compound prescriptions, excepting under his immediate and careful supervision.

13th. In justice to his sense of the proper limits of his vocation, to the medical profession, and to his customers, the apothecary should abstain from prescribing for diseases, excepting in those emergencies, which occasionally occur, demanding immediate action, or, in those every day unimportant cases, where to refuse council would be construed as a confession of ignorance, calculated to injure the reputation of the apothecary, and would be attended with no advantage to either physician or patient.

14th. The sale of quack or secret medicines, properly so-called, constitutes a considerable item in the business of some apothecaries. Many of the people are favourably impressed towards that class of medicines, and naturally go to the apothecaries for them. It is this which has caused many apothecaries to keep certain of these nostrums, who are ready and willing to relinquish the traffic in them, but for the offence that a refusal to supply them to their customers, would create. At present all that the best disposed apothecary can be expected to do, is to refrain from the manufacture himself, of quack and secret medicines; to abstain from recommending them, either verbally or by exhibiting show-bills, announcing them for sale, in his shop or windows; and to discourage their use, when appealed to.

15th. Having in view the welfare of the community and the advancement of pharmaceutical science and interest, it is all important that the offices of prescribing and compounding medicines should be kept distinct, in this city and surrounding districts. All connection with, or moneyed interest in apothecary stores on the part of physicians, should, therefore, be discountenanced. With respect to the pecuniary understanding

said to exist in some instances, between apothecaries and physicians, we hold, that no well disposed apothecary or physician would be a party to such a contract, and consider the Code of Ethics of the College of Pharmacy and the Constitution of the Philadelphia County Medical Society as sufficiently explicit on this subject.

16th. In reference to the patronage on the part of physicians of particular apothecaries, we are of the opinion, as a general rule, that graduates in pharmacy should be encouraged in preference to others of the same date of business, and whilst admitting the abstract right of the physician to send his prescription where he pleases, we think that justice should dictate the propriety of his encouraging the nearest apothecary deserving of his confidence and that of the patient.

D. FRANCIS CONDIE,
WM. MAYBERRY,
G. EMERSON,
Com. of Co. Med. Society.
WILLIAM PROCTOR, JR.,
H. C. BLAIR,
JOHN H. ECKY,
Com. of Phila. Coll. of Pharmacy.

Philadelphia County Medical Society.—At the annual meeting, held on the 20th of Jan. last, the following were elected Officers of the Society for the current year:—

President.—Samuel Jackson, M. D.

Vice-Presidents.—John F. Lamb, M. D., and Isaac Parrish, M. D.

Recording Secretary.—D. Francis Condie, M. D.

Corresponding Secretary.—Henry S. Patterson, M. D.

Treasurer.—Wm. Byrd Page, M. D.

Censors.—E. F. Leake, M. D., N. L. Hatfield, M. D., Lewis Rodman, M. D., Wm. N. Johnson, M. D., Wm. Henry, M. D.,

At an adjourned meeting of the Society held February 10th, 1852, the following were elected:—

Delegates to the American Medical Association.—Samuel Jackson (Professor), Benj. S. Janney, Lewis Rodman, Chas. D. Meigs, Robert A. Given, Chas. H. Bibighaus, Thos. H. Yardley, Thos. F. Batton, Wm. H. Klapp, Isaac Parrish, D. Francis Condie, Wm. Darrach, Jno. D. Logan, and Jno. F. Lamb.

To the Pennsylvania State Society.—Isaac Hays, Geo. B. Wood, Wm. Pepper,

Geo. Fox, Samuel Jackson, Geo. W. Norris, Paul B. Goddard, John F. Lamb, A. Nandain, Samuel Jackson (Professor), G. Emerson, Henry Bond, Alfred Stille, Thomas D. Mütter, Jos. Pancoast, Wm. Mayburry, D. Francis Condie, Henry S. Patterson, Francis West, Isaac Remington, I. M. Pugh, Thos. F. Betton, Wm. R. Grant, Joseph Warrington, C. H. Bibighaus, Wm. Henry, Edward Janvier, and G. W. Patterson.

It was *Resolved*, that should any of the Delegates thus elected be unable to attend the approaching Session of the American Medical Association or State Society, or if he has been elected a Delegate from any other body to the former, he be requested and empowered to appoint some other member of this County Society as shall be able to attend as his substitute, and that such appointment, set forth in writing, and signed by the Delegate by whom it has been made, shall serve as the credential of such substitute.

Circular of the Committee of the American Medical Association to report on the Action of Water on Lead Pipes.—To the Members of the Medical Profession in the United States.—The undersigned, a Committee of the American Medical Association to report on "the action of water on lead pipes, and the diseases which proceed from it," are desirous of obtaining from their professional brethren any information that is calculated to throw light on this important, but hitherto generally unobserved subject. They therefore take the liberty of proposing the following questions:—

1st. Have you, in your practice, met with cases of lead or painter's colic produced by using water drawn through lead pipes, or contained in leaden cisterns?

2d. Have you met with cases of arthralgy? If so, have they been attributable to this cause?

3d. Have painful neuralgic diseases been observed by you, among persons using water thus exposed to lead?

4th. Have you seen instances of lead encephalopathy?

5th. Have you observed paralysis as a precursor, concomitant, or sequel to either of the above forms of disease?

Answers to any or all of the foregoing questions, and any facts or information as to any form of disease originating in the use of

water impregnated with lead, will be very gratefully received. Accurate descriptions of all cases would be very desirable, especially their early history. It will also be very important to know the length of time each individual case had been exposed to lead before the disease became manifest.

As the report must be made at the annual meeting of the Association to be held in Richmond, Va., in May next, it is desirable that all information should be forwarded to any one of the Committee previous to the first of March next.

HORATIO ADAMS, Waltham, Mass.

SAM'L. L. DANA, Lowell, "

JOHN C. DALTON, " "

Committee.

WALTHAM, Dec. 5, 1851.

Medical Institution of Yale College.—Fourteen candidates have received the degree in this school, at the close of the term in January last.

Charleston Preparatory School.—In compliance with the recommendation of the American Medical Association, several Preparatory Medical Schools have started into existence within the present year. In our number for December last, we noticed one opened at Knoxville, Tenn., and we have before us the prospectus of another, the first session of which is to commence on the first Monday in April next, and continue until August. The different chairs are to be occupied as follows:—

Anatomy and Physiology.—By Dr. F. T. Miles.

Institutes and Practice of Medicine.—By Dr. D. J. Cain.

Materia Medica and Therapeutics.—By Dr. F. Peyre Porcher.

Obstetrics, and Diseases of Women and Children.—By Dr. E. Belin Flagg.

The Chair of Surgery has been offered to a gentleman now in Europe. Should he accept it, his name will appear in another Prospectus a few weeks hence; should he not do so, the Chair will be otherwise filled as soon as an answer from him is received.

TERMS.—FIFTY DOLLARS for the Course, including Examinations during the Winter.

Private Medical Instruction.—Drs. J. F. Peebles, J. H. Claiborne, and N. F. Rives, of Petersburg, Va., announce that, in ac-

cordance with a recommendation of the American Medical Association, they have associated for the purpose of giving private instruction in medicine.

They are prepared, by an appropriate library, by models, drawings, preparations, specimens, dissections, &c., to teach and illustrate the elementary branches of medicine and surgery.

No student will be received who has not complied with the recommendation of the American Medical Association in reference to preliminary education. Students received after the 1st of February, 1852. Terms, for a course of twelve months, \$100.

OBITUARY RECORD.—Died of Typhus Fever, on the 27th January, 1852, at Quarantine, Staten Island, A. SIDNEY DOANE, M. D., Health Officer of the Port of New York, aged 50 years.

— On the 21st of January, near Wilmington, THOMAS MACKIE SMITH, M. D., aged 42 years.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

Life Insurance of Medical Men.—[We find the following advertisement in the London Journals, announcing an arrangement of Life Insurance for Medical Men, which appears to us of great importance, and we trust that some of the companies in this country will adopt a similar plan.]

"*To the Medical Profession.*—The members of the Medical Profession are usually dependent upon their own personal exertions for their subsistence. If health fail, they fall into distress; if they die, their families are unprovided for.

"The uncertainty of their incomes often prevents them from making provision for infirmity, old age, or death, by the usual methods of assurance. To meet this difficulty, The Law Property Assurance Society has made the following arrangements for the benefit of the Profession:—

"1. It grants special policies of assurance, by which the assured, instead of being obliged to pay a fixed sum every year or forfeit their policies, may pay any sum they please, at any time, according to their means, and for which a proportionate sum will be assured to them by their policy. By this means uncertainty of income is provided for, and no forfeiture for non-payment ever takes place.

"2. If the assurer in this office should find that the objects of his insurance after death are no longer required, he may convert his policy into an annuity for his own life.

"3. On payment of a small annual sum during their own lives, husbands may secure annuities for their wives or daughters after their own decease.

"4. On payment of a small sum annually, professional men may secure for themselves an annuity, to commence on the decline of life, or earlier, should they be at any time disabled, by sickness or infirmity, from pursuing their occupations.

"Detailed prospectuses, forms of proposal, and every information, will be immediately furnished on application to WILLIAM NEILSON, Actuary and Secretary, 30 Essex-street, Strand, London."

Anomalous Case of Vicarious Menstruation.—Dr. LECOMTE, of Eu, in France, has published, in *L'Union Médicale*, a case of an extraordinary description, of which we shall offer a short outline. The subject is a servant-girl, twenty-nine years of age, of apparently good health; she had never menstruated, and for the last seven years had experienced flushings and heat in the face, these symptoms recurring every four or five weeks. At these periods she likewise complained of severe lancinating pain in the right thigh, and sometimes in the leg and foot, the whole leg then becoming extremely tender to the touch.

Towards June, 1842, these phenomena increased in intensity, the patient became very weak, the abdomen felt tense, tympanitic, and tender, and she could no longer pass urine. Dr. Lecomte prescribed leeches to the hypogastrium, and prolonged hip-baths. The urine flowed a little; but at last the girl was persuaded to submit to the catheter, and a large quantity of dull and foetid urine was drawn off.

Now began a series of strange phenomena. The bladder, uterus, stomach, and rectum began to throw off what the patient called *balls*; these were pieces of membrane, or rather membranous casts, white, dense, and covered on one side with gelatinous matter. The vesical casts were somewhat large, as she was obliged to extract them with her fingers. On a former examination the internal organs of generation could hardly be properly explored, as the hymen was un-

broken and rather tense, but the casts now came per vaginam, and the patient being obliged to dilate the parts herself, in order to give passage to the membranous formations, it was found on examination that the os was pervious, and the cervix of the normal size, though tilted backwards. Here the casts assumed a tubular shape.

The stomach now became very irritable, and a great abundance of glairy matter, mixed with pseudo-membranes, was thrown up. The vomiting now and then was of a purely sanguineous character, and in the coagula ejected an ascaris lumbricoidea was noticed. The patient stated that she had likewise seen such parasites in the matters which had been expelled from the vagina. Diarrhoea supervened a little time afterwards, and in the dejections the same pseudo-membranous products were observed.

After a few weeks' respite, the symptoms recurred with renewed intensity; all the above-named organs secreted the same membranous products, but the uterus was evidently the most active. In one day Dr. Lecomte extracted ten casts, of a red colour, from the vagina; they were rolled up, and exhibited now for the first time. One of these presented on one side an infundibular shape, which made the medical attendant suspect that the membrane must have been formed in close vicinity to the fallopian tube.

The ejection of the casts was always accompanied by much pain, the latter being sometimes so intense as to cause the patient, who was far from being pusillanimous, to roll about in the bed with agony. The sanguineous flux was now suddenly transferred to the ears; these organs discharged each about a tumblerful of blood; vomiting of the same fluid came on a few days afterwards, and the casts were again ejected from the stomach, intestines, bladder, and uterus. When these symptoms had ceased a great improvement was noticed; the patient gradually became stronger, and from 1842 to the present time, the girl has experienced no uneasiness but dysuria every two or three months, except in July, 1843, when the most complete relapse occurred. The author does not say whether any amount of regular menstruation has appeared since the casts are no longer secreted. This is a great omission. The pseudo-membranous products were examined by M. Mialhe, and were found to be composed principally of albumen.